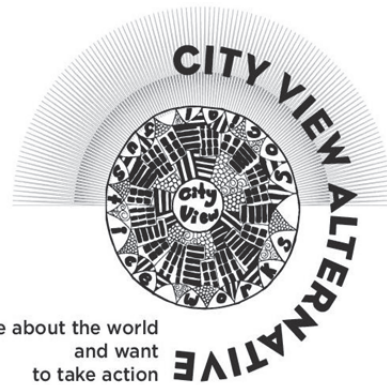


# Welcome to City View!!

Your all-in-one guide to events for the 2015-16 school year.  
Put it on your fridge & consult regularly.



## Inside

Page 2	Albion Hills
Page 3	Extended Activity Week
Page 4	White Ribbon Outreach
Page 5	Winter Feast
Page 6	Open House; Volunteer Week
Page 7	Drama Week
Page 8	Grade 8 Graduation

## In the Loop

“Being the parent of a grade 7/8 student brings challenges as they become more independent and move into a new phase of their school life. Volunteering is a wonderful way to stay connected with your child and your child’s school! City View offers so many opportunities for parents of all types to join in the school community.”

- Carole, parent volunteer

## What’s the Big Idea?

What you hold in your hand is (probably) the first-ever newsletter written by City View parents. We hope this can serve as an introduction for families of incoming students, and as a guide to volunteering in the school. Please, take a look and get an idea of the educational, political—and FUN—activities City View students and their families share in throughout the year. As part of the school community, parents/guardians play a vital role in the success of these events.

Thank you to all City View volunteers past and present. You make all the difference!

Can you picture yourself in these pages? If so, we’d love to hear from you. You can email us at: [cityviewpac@gmail.com](mailto:cityviewpac@gmail.com)

# Albion Hills



“I honestly can’t think of a better way to learn about City View than going on this trip as a parent volunteer. Meeting the teachers, students, and other parents, in an informal and fun setting was a great start to the year.”

- Philip, parent

## Starting the year off right, students, teachers, and parents/guardians assemble for an out-of-classroom experience

In **September**, the entire school, with parent volunteers, heads about 50 km north to Albion Hills for a three-day camping trip. Leading up to the excursion, students work in groups to plan and prepare their meals according to a budget and Canada nutrition guidelines. Parents lead workshops on everything from yoga, to puppetry and wilderness survival skills. This is a great way to get to know each other. Love to get cozy around a campfire? Come camp with us!

Plus...there are some very practiced hands at making campground coffee. Just sayin'....



# Extended Activity Week

## Fun? During school work hours? What?!?!

Extended Activity Week happens twice in our school year: first at the **end of October**, and then in the **second week of December**. Students get to participate in all kinds of fun workshops led by parent/guardian volunteers, teachers, student teachers and even students. But, there's a catch: students need to finish all their work to participate. It's a good catch though, because it allows students time to finish their work if they're falling behind. And if you need help finishing, well, during the week teachers are there to support you and give you an extra push to get it all done. Neat, eh?

Come out and lead a workshop! Share your hobby/interest or try something new. We've had parents do yoga, activist button-making, sewing, cartooning and cinnamon bun baking workshops, to name but a few.



*City View parents get in on the fun, sharing their interests with the school*

“At City View, they really believe in working for social change. And when you volunteer there, you are part of that project. You might just be setting out chairs or making coffee and sewing a costume, but you're joining together with other parents and teachers and students to make a different kind of community.”

- Zoe, parent

At the end of **November**, students work to end violence against women by setting up information centres at fourteen street corners around Toronto, representing the fourteen women who lost their lives at Ecole Polytechnique.



Last year this campaign raised \$1,500, which was donated to women's shelters.

*All for a good cause: handing out a brochure designed by City View students.*

## White Ribbon Outreach Campaign



“Volunteering two years in a row for this campaign, it was a delight to witness City View’s young people in action. It took a lot of courage for the students to approach adult after adult, and I was repeatedly impressed by the grace with which the students conducted themselves, and their increasing confidence as the morning progressed. Even when an adult brushed off the invitation to learn more about what the students were promoting, the students were not deterred. I remember seeing the look in adults’ eyes soften as they listened to what the students were saying. But even more wonderful was the look on the students’ faces—a look that reflected the power of being heard, and the knowledge that they were making a difference.”

- Kirsten, parent

Parent volunteers are needed to escort the students, to help navigate the city’s streets (and, sometimes, its personalities).

**Join us for an inspirational day!**

**Sing,  
Dance,  
Eat  
&  
Clean!**

# Winter Feast



In **December**, parents organize a seasonal celebration called Winter Feast. Families enjoy a sit-down dinner and are treated to a variety of acts showcasing the students' talents. Don't miss this joyous and delicious start to the festive season.

Volunteers are needed to coordinate the potluck and refreshments, make a dish, put up displays of students' art, and clean up after the celebration. Would love to help but can't stay after? Pitch in by bringing home a bin of dirty dishes to wash.



"The gym is transformed into a festive dining area, food is shared, and each time the curtain opens, silence hits the room as students' display their hard work and creativity. Every student shines!"

- Christina, parent



*Reaching out...!*

## Grade Six Open House

Held **mid-January**, student artwork, teamwork and activism are highlighted at this event where Grade 6 students and their families check out all that City View has to offer.

Join us at the Open House to answer questions from Grade 6 parents at a parent cafe. Can't make the date? Drop off a sweet treat to share!



## Volunteer Week



During Community Service Week in **March**, students at City View go to help out at places like women's shelters, daycares and refugee support centers. For each different place there is a mixed group of 7s and 8s. It's a really eye opening experience! And, it's a great way to network for future volunteer opportunities.

Parents are needed to contact the organizations and arrange for the placements. Have some extra time in late winter? Some organizations want a parent volunteer to be there with the students.



*Behind the scenes...where the magic happens!*

# DRAMA WEEK

Students write one-act plays in 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Nine of these plays are selected and performed at Drama Night in **May**, and incoming Grade 7 students and families are also invited to attend.



## 9 Plays



## 1 Night

**“Reading scripts for Drama Week was really enjoyable and a great chance to connect with the creative thinking of the students! They obviously enjoyed the assignment and it was rewarding to help them develop the characters they had created.”**

**- Maddy, parent volunteer**

Volunteers are needed during the production period to give feedback on plays, assemble sets and props, and to assist with direction of the plays. On Drama Night itself, parents help set up the evening, by bringing desserts to share with the families who will be entering the school next Fall.



At the end of **June**, after two years in their City View family, it is time for the Grade 8s to graduate. The entire student body attends the graduation ceremony and festivities are held in their honour. It really is a celebration of our community.

While Grade 8

# Grade 8 Graduation

*Join us in  
congratulating  
our young  
people!*



families are busy snapping away pictures of their young person, it falls to the Grade 7 community to coordinate the setup, refreshments and clean up for the event. Volunteers are also needed for the after-party arranged by the SAC to make sure things run smoothly!



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**Want to help out? [cityviewpac@gmail.com](mailto:cityviewpac@gmail.com)**